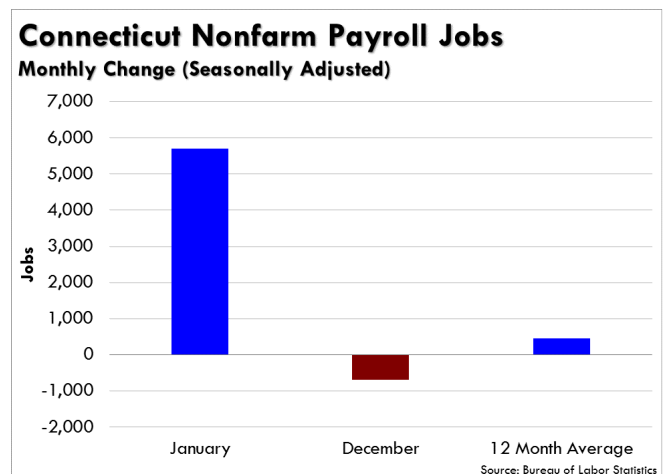
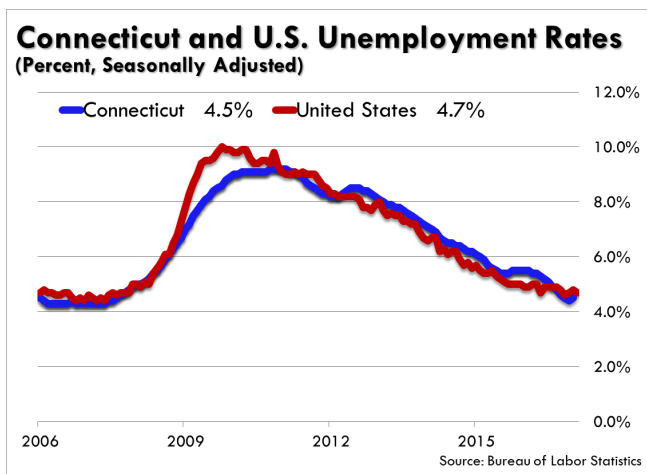


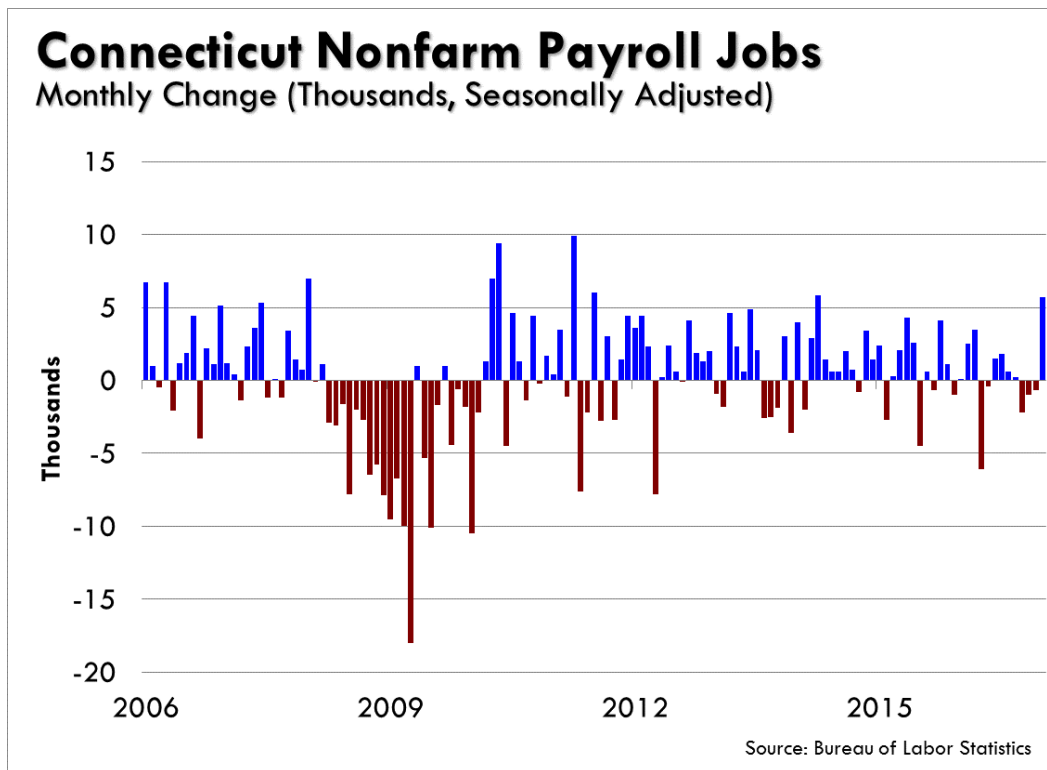


March 14, 2017

Summary

- **Connecticut added 5,700 jobs and the unemployment rate increased by 0.1 percentage point to 4.5 percent in January** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, Connecticut added 5,400 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 1 percentage point from 5.5 percent.
- **In January, Connecticut's private sector added 5,900 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 9,800 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed Connecticut residents rose by 2,991 in January**, and over the past year 20,510 Connecticut residents found jobs.
- Connecticut's **labor force participation rate increased to 65.8 percent** from 65.6 percent in January. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 0.1 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.1 percentage point to 4.7 percent in February**. State employment and unemployment data for February is scheduled for release on March 24, 2017. The national employment situation report for March will be released on Friday, April 7, 2017.





Connecticut Payroll Employment

Connecticut added 5,700 jobs, or 0.34 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during January. In the prior month, Connecticut lost 700 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in Connecticut increased by 5,400, or 0.32 percent. Connecticut nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

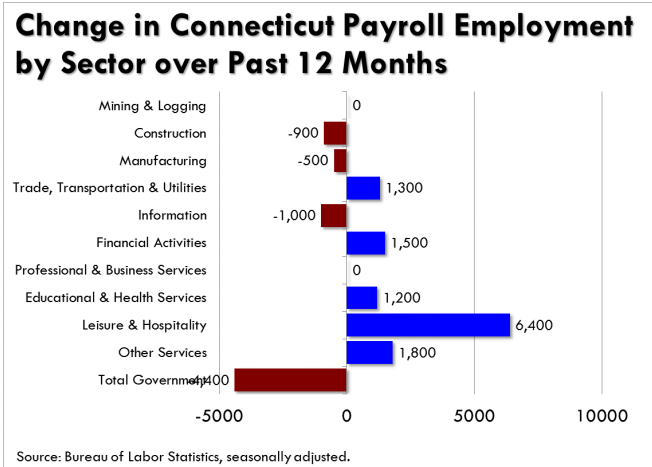
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 235,000 jobs in February, or 0.16 percent. Over the 12-month period ending February 2017, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,350,000 jobs, or 1.64 percent. Connecticut ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During January, Connecticut's private-sector added 5,900 jobs, or 0.41 percent. The private-sector in Connecticut lost 300 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in Connecticut increased by 9,800, or 0.68 percent. Connecticut private-sector payroll employment has increased in 7 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 227,000 jobs in February, or 0.18 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,156,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.78 percent. Connecticut ranks 40th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during January were Leisure & Hospitality (+3,100) and Professional & Business Services (+1,900). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Educational & Health Services (-2,800) and Information (-400).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Leisure & Hospitality (+6,400) and Other Services (+1,800). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Total Government (-4,400) and Information (-1,000).



Connecticut Labor Force Statistics

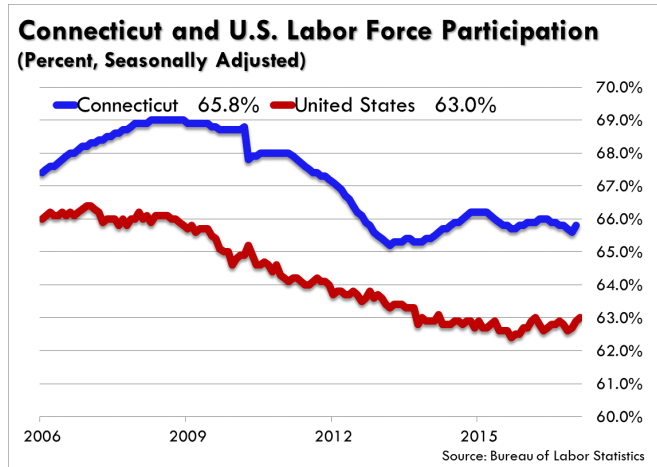
Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate in Connecticut rose to 65.8 percent in January from 65.6 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 15 have a higher labor force participation rate than Connecticut. The labor force participation rate in Connecticut is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in Connecticut was 69.0 percent in December 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in Connecticut occurred in November 1991 when the labor force participation rate hit 71.8 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 65.2 percent in March 2013. The series low for the labor force participation rate occurred in January 1976 when the labor force participation rate hit 63.9 percent. The national labor force participation rate rose by 0.1 percentage point to 63.0 percent in February, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

Employment-to-Population Ratio

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the Connecticut civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, rose to 62.9



percent in January from 62.8 percent the prior month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 14 have higher employment-to-population ratios than Connecticut. The employment-to-population ratio in Connecticut is 0.6 percentage point higher than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in Connecticut was 65.5 percent in January 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in Connecticut occurred in December 1989 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 68.3 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 60.1 percent in April 2013. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in March 1976 when the employment-to-population ratio was 57.6 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.0 percent in February. That rate was 0.2 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

